

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A system for providing automated legal audits of a business comprising a data processing system having at least one computer and user interface, with software running on the computer for providing at least one user with information and advice relating to a legal audit, wherein said information is selected from the group consisting of records of the company's business transactions, minutes of board of directors meetings, contractual agreements, licensing agreements, supplier and vendor agreements, purchase orders, partnership agreements, communications with competitors, intellectual property documents and registrations, and combinations thereof, and wherein the data processing system further includes a database of these records having automated categorization of the records in an index and/or a spreadsheet, wherein the index and/or the spreadsheet are searchable by an authorized user of the system.

2. (Previously Presented) A method comprising the steps of
providing a system for providing automated legal audits of a business comprising a data processing system having at least one computer and user interface, with software running on the computer for providing at least one user with information relating to a legal audit, wherein said information is selected from the group consisting of records of the company's business transactions, minutes of board of directors meetings, contractual agreements, licensing agreements, supplier and vendor agreements, purchase orders, partnership agreements, communications with competitors, intellectual property documents and registrations, and combinations

thereof, and wherein the data processing system further includes a database of these records having automated categorization of the records in an index and/or a spreadsheet, wherein the index and/or the spreadsheet are searchable by an authorized user of the system;

reviewing by the system legal documents relating to a company's business, wherein said documents are contained in electronic format in the data processing system or database;

reducing by the system the legal documents to summary form in business language, wherein said business language includes layman terms understood by corporate officers, directors and managers;

overseeing by the system the organization of all important legal documents; and

advising by the system the board of directors and corporate officers and managers, thereby providing the company advance notice in order to take action(s) to minimize and/or to avoid litigation and to reduce legal costs for the company.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the corporate documents include bylaws, minutes of meetings for the board of directors, other corporate officers, and/or managers.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein the advising step includes advising regarding select issues, matters, and areas of potential litigation.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of removing, deleting, or otherwise purging from the data processing system information that might result in legal action being taken against the business.

7. (New) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of flagging by the system potential problems in said information that require compliance action.

8. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein said reducing step comprises the step of converting said legal documents